

with a simple denial, in good faith, without prejudice to itself.” Rodgers v. Knight, No. 2:13-CV-04033-NKL, 2013 WL 12183669, at *1 (W.D. Mo. Mar. 27, 2013) (quoting Eastman v. Cty. of Sheridan, No. 707CV5004, 2007 WL 1814214, at *1 (D. Neb. June 21, 2007) (not reported) (internal quotes omitted)). Because of the availability of extensive discovery and the liberal notice pleading standard of Fed. R. Civ. P. 8, motions for more definite statement are rarely granted. Tinder, 207 F. Supp. 2d at 959. See also Roberts v. Walmart Stores, Inc., 736 F. Supp. 1527, 1530 (E.D. Mo. 1990) (If a pleading meets the requirements of Rule 8 and fairly notifies the opposing party of the nature of a claim, a motion for more definite statement will not be granted.).

Discussion


In support of their motion, Defendants argue that by referring to itself as “Ronnoco/Trident,” and by using the term “Trident” to refer to Trident Beverage, Inc., Trident Marketing, Inc., and/or Trident Holdings, Ronnoco is conflating its identity with Trident such that Defendants cannot reasonably ascertain the proper entity whose rights Ronnoco seeks to enforce in this case. Ronnoco opposes Defendants’ motion – their second Rule 12 motion – on the grounds that it is procedurally improper and prohibited by Rule 12(g)(2). Ronnoco further argues that even if Defendants’ motion was not improper, it would fail on the merits. The Court agrees. Ronnoco’s complaint is neither vague nor ambiguous and Defendants have fair notice of what the claims are and the grounds upon which they rest. Rule 12(e) is not a discovery device, Tinder, 207 F. Supp. 2d at 96, and Defendants will have an opportunity to seek the information regarding the corporate structure of Ronnoco, Trident Holdings, Trident Beverage, and Trident Marketing through discovery.

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion for More Definite Statement [30] is **DENIED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall file their answer to Ronnoco's complaint **no later than Tuesday, March 30, 2021**.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2021.



JOHN A. ROSS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE